

SIXTY-THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT

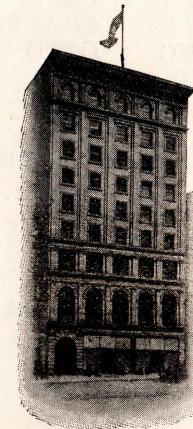
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

NINETEEN HUNDRED
EIGHTEEN



Sixty-third Annual
Report
of the
MECHANICS' INSTITUTE
for the
Year Ending February 28, 1918



Mechanics' Institute Building
57 Post St., San Francisco

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE OFFICERS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.
Year ending February 28, 1918.

LIVINGSTON JENKSPresident
BYRON MAUZYVice-President
GEORGE BEANSTON.....Recording Secretary
JAMES H. LYONS.....Corresponding Secretary

H. W. CROZIER	JOSEPH M. CUMMING
J. J. DOLAN	TIREY L. FORD
DR. JOSEPH D. HODGEN	DR. A. W. SCOTT
JAMES SPIERS	CHARLES D. STEIGER
RUDOLPH J. TAUSSIG	OTTO VON GELDERN

JOHN H. WOOD.....Secretary

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library.

FRANCIS B. GRAVES.....Librarian

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

**Library
and Chess Room**
Mechanics' Institute Building
57 Post Street
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

The Mechanics'-Mercantile Library now contains over 70,000 volumes.

The Reading Room list of periodicals embraces the titles of over 500 newspapers, magazines, reviews and journals.

Members may withdraw two books at a time, and extra books on payment of 5 cents each.

Books (except new fiction) may be retained for two weeks and then renewed for two weeks longer.

New fiction may be kept one week and is not renewable.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Entrance Fee	\$ 1.00
Quarterly Dues (in advance).....	1.50
Life Membership	50.00

Library open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

Sundays and Holidays, 11 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Chess Room open daily, 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7, 1918.

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute:

In less than a month after our last annual meeting the war between the United States and Germany was declared, and the effect of the war is apparent in the activities of the Institute. After the fire our membership dropped from 4150 in 1906 to 2362 in 1910. Since the occupancy of our present quarters our numbers gradually increased till a year ago when we had 3742 members. Our present membership is 3725, showing a loss of 17, as compared with a gain of 143 in 1916, 111 in 1915, and 147 in 1914.

The effect of the war is seen also in a marked degree in the general circulation of our books. In 1916 there were 132,000 books taken out. During the year just ended there were but 118,000, or over 1000 less per month. It is to be noted also that there was an increased demand for books pertaining to the war, notably books of history and those dealing with military and naval engineering. The receipts from the library were \$1000 less than the previous year.

Notwithstanding the fact that our membership has fallen off and our circulation decreased, we have added to our library more books than during the previous year.

There are now 70,055 volumes on our shelves. We spent for books, periodicals and binding last year approximately \$10,000, about the same as the previous year. The total amount expended on books since the fire is \$123,838.76. A notable addition to our library during the past year is a collection of about 400 books and pamphlets pertaining to the history, description, ethnology and natural history of the Hawaiian Islands.

Owing to the conservative character of our investments our financial condition has not been affected by the present disturbed conditions. Our gross receipts from all sources during the past year were about \$91,000, of which \$7000 was received from the redemption of San Francisco Municipal bonds. Our total expenditures were about \$64,000, leaving

an increase in our assets of over \$20,000. Our receipts from this building were \$43,500, being a net gain of \$1800 over the previous year. We have expended on this building up to date in construction, repairs and equipment \$349,300. The most recent expenditure was in the mural painting to be seen upon entering the building, the work of Mr. Arthur F. Mathews. We have invested in bonds the sum of \$376,000. Our first mortgages on San Francisco real estate amount to \$79,000, making the total amount of our investments \$455,000. More detailed information concerning the library and our financial condition will be found in the report of the librarian and of the secretary, printed herewith.

Professor H. Morse Stephens, whose illness caused a discontinuance of his lectures a year ago, but who is now happily recovered, chose as the subject of his fifteenth annual course of lectures for the members of the Mechanics' Institute, "Europe in the Nineteenth Century: Metternich and Bismarck." The course has been eminently successful, both in interest and attendance.

Since the declaration of war eighty-nine of our members have joined the naval or military forces of the United States. The Board of Trustees assumed the responsibility of remitting the dues of these members during their absence. Our library has been thrown open to all students of the United States military and naval schools. A list of the books in the library on aviation and military and naval engineering has been issued which has been of great value to these students.

At the beginning of the war James Spiers, a member of the Board of Trustees, volunteered his services in the Ordnance Department and he is now serving "somewhere in France" with the rank of Captain.

Mr. A. Law Voge, who had charge of our reference department since 1914, resigned his position in January of this year to accept a commission as Captain of Engineers in the Chemical Division.

The Institute subscribed \$10,000 to the first issue of Liberty Bonds, \$5000 to the second, and we are prepared to subscribe to the third issue.

The loyalty and patriotism of the Mechanics' Institute is shown in its constant endeavor to assist the Government in every possible way.

LIVINGSTON JENKS, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For the Year Ending February 28, 1918.

San Francisco, March 1, 1918.

To the Board of Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith financial statement of the Mechanics' Institute for the year ending February 28, 1918:

March 1, 1917. Cash on deposit in various banks.....	\$ 9,714.22
Cash in contingent funds.....	225.00
Total cash.....	\$ 9,939.22

RECEIPTS.

Mechanics' Institute Building—rent collections from March 1, 1917, to March 1, 1918 (including \$12,000 for rent of portion occupied by the Library).....	\$ 43,543.66
Sundry	5.00
Interest, Bills Receivable	192.33
Interest, Ernest N. Atkins Memorial Fund.	30.00
Interest, James Lick Fund.....	600.00
Interest, Commercial and Savings.....	355.10
Interest, Mortgage Receivable Accounts... .	4,122.00
Bond Premium Account	740.04
Bond Interest Account	16,284.96
Bonds Matured	7,000.00
Sundry	5.00

Library and General Administration:

Dues	\$15,761.00
Entrance Fees	539.00
Life Memberships	50.00
Books Paid For	107.05
Fines and Extra Books.....	1,396.80
Lectures	57.50
	17,911.35
	\$ 90,789.44

\$100,728.66

EXPENDITURES.

Mechanics' Institute Building—payments for construction, equipment, etc.....\$ 2,631.94

Mechanics' Institute Building—operating expenses from March 1, 1917, to March 1, 1918:

Pay Roll	\$ 9,764.75
Taxes	5,033.50
Insurance	935.23
Legal Expense	12.90
Steam Heat	1,200.00
Electric Current	1,972.55
Water	202.94
Window Cleaning	280.00
Supplies	1,097.65
Repairs	603.93
General Expense	112.47
	21,215.92

Accrued Bond Interest	52.05
Interest Payable	61.20
Taxes, Outside Lands	22.40

Library and General Administration:

Advertising	\$ 59.65
Books, Binding and Periodicals.	9,828.68
Furniture	68.00
General Expense	1,721.34
Insurance	339.28
Legal Expense	250.00
Lectures	559.28
Printing and Stationery	311.93
Salaries	14,441.35
Taxes	23.47
Monthly Bulletin	216.00
Rent of Library Rooms.....	12,000.00
	\$ 39,818.98

\$ 63,802.49

Cash on hand in various banks, Mar. 1, 1918	\$16,533.67
Cash on hand in contingent funds.....	225.00

Total cash.....	\$ 16,758.67
Transferred to Investments Account.....	20,167.50

\$100,728.66

The net amount expended since April 18, 1906, on Books,
 Binding and Periodicals has been.....\$123,838.76
 The amount paid out for construction, equipment, etc.,
 of the new building on Post Street, has been.....\$349,293.50

Insurance is carried as follows:

Books	\$ 30,700.00
Furniture	7,500.00
Post St. Building (besides accident and plate glass insurance)	215,000.00

The Resources of the Mechanics' Institute are as follows:

Post Street lot covered by Mechanics' Institute Building.
 Seven lots in People's Homestead Tract A (unimproved).
 First Mortgages for \$79,200.00 on San Francisco Real Estate.
 304 \$1000.00 5% City Hall Bonds of the City and County of
 San Francisco, standing on our books for \$322,888.98.
 10 \$1000.00 5% Municipal Railways Bonds of the City and
 County of San Francisco, standing on our books for \$10,302.
 6 \$100.00 5% Municipal Railways Bonds of the City and
 County of San Francisco, standing on our books for \$660.11.
 4 \$1000.00 4½% Water Bonds of the City and County of San
 Francisco, standing on our books for \$4140.93.
 7 \$1000.00 4½% New Levee Bonds of the City of Sacramento,
 Cal., standing on our books for \$7211.40.
 5 \$1000.00 5% Municipal Improvement Bonds of the City of
 Richmond, Cal., standing on our books for \$5287.
 5 \$1000.00 5% School District Bonds of the City of Richmond,
 Cal., standing on our books for \$5385.75.
 5 \$1000.00 5% Municipal Improvement Bonds of the City of
 Santa Barbara, Cal., standing on our books for \$5164.
 15 \$1000.00 4% United States Liberty Bonds, standing on our
 books for \$15,000.
 Cash in various banks, \$16,758.67.
 Books, Furniture and Equipment of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. WOOD,
 Secretary.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 7, 1918.

To the President and Board of Trustees, Mechanics' Institute.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to present the Sixty-third Annual Report of the Library for the year ending February 28, 1918.

For the first time in several years I have to report a falling off in membership and in the number of books issued for home use. The reason for this is, of course, the change of conditions brought about by the war. An interesting fact in connection with our circulation is the decrease in the number of volumes of fiction issued and the increase in historical and useful arts volumes.

The library's war activities consisted in helping the soldiers and sailors who have come to the library for information, in the posting and issuing the various food bulletins which were sent to us by the Government for that purpose, in the sale of Thrift Stamps, and in the donation of books to the Red Cross Library at Mare Island and to the Soldiers' and Sailors' League of the San Francisco Branch of the Red Cross.

Four thousand seven hundred and seven volumes were received during the year, being 583 more than were received during the previous year. The number of volumes listed on February 28, 1918, is 70,055.

PUBLICATIONS.

Two numbers of our Book List were issued during the year, one in July 1917 containing the accessions for the year 1916, and the other in January 1918 containing a list of books on Aeronautics and Military and Naval Engineering.

LIBRARY STAFF.

The following changes in the staff took place during the year: Mr. Charles F. Woods resigned to accept the position of Librarian of the Public Library of San Jose, Cal., and Mr. Adolph Law Voge resigned to accept a commission as Captain in the U. S. Reserve Engineer Corps.

MEMBERSHIP.

March 1, 1917	3742
New Members—Life	1
New Members—Subscribing	539
Members reinstated	6
	<hr/>
	4288
Withdrawn:	
Life (deceased)	9
Subscribing	406
Dropped for non-payment of dues	148
	<hr/>
	563
Membership February 28, 1918	<hr/>
	3725

The membership is divided as follows:

Honorary	5
Life	585
Subscribing	3135
	<hr/>
	3725

BOOKS.

Number of volumes listed March 1, 1917.....	65,875
Added by purchase	3426
Added by gift	443
Added by binding	838
	<hr/>
	4,707

70,582

Number of volumes lost and paid for.....	44
Lost by canceled memberships	25
Donated to California State Prisons	140
Donated to Red Cross Library at Mare Island.....	100
Donated to Red Cross Soldiers' and Sailors' League.	100
Duplicates returned to U. S. Government	24
Discarded	94
	<hr/>
	527

Number of volumes listed February 28, 1918..... 70,055

ANNUAL TABULATION.

	Purchase	Cost	Gift	Binding	Cost	Total
General Works	48	\$ 135.65	30	401	\$ 594.24	479
Philosophy	69	91.86	7	3	3.45	79
Religion	31	67.58	1	2	2.54	34
Sociology	203	383.28	161	31	38.90	395
Science	92	178.27	61	131	156.56	284
Useful Arts	635	1637.32	92	176	268.91	903
Fine Arts	125	355.40	5	60	92.46	190
Literature	231	307.19	6	7	8.60	244
French	4	3.15	18	...	...	22
Spanish .....	...	...	1	...	...	1
Italian .....	...	...	1	...	...	1
Travel	97	271.92	6	16	22.04	119
Biography	77	172.01	4	2	2.64	83
History	298	401.97	41	9	9.20	348
Fiction	1201	1405.59	9	...	...	1210
Children's Books	111	119.79	...	...	...	111
Special Collection ...	204	200.00	...	...	...	204
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3426	\$5730.98	443	838	\$1199.54	4707

GIFTS.

Four hundred forty-three bound volumes, 280 pamphlets, and 2830 serials were donated to the Library during the year. A list of the donors will be found in Appendix I.

BINDING.

Eight hundred thirty-eight volumes of periodicals and newspapers were bound at a cost of \$1199.54, and 1188 books were rebound at a cost of \$680.17. One thousand four hundred fourteen volumes were repaired in the Library.

CIRCULATION.

There were issued for home use 118,159 volumes, an average of 9826 volumes per month.

TABLE OF CIRCULATION STATISTICS.

General Works	102
Philosophy	2,078
Religion	759
Sociology	2,337
Science	1,390
Useful Arts	5,184
Fine Arts	2,142
Music	426
Literature	5,368
German	1,065
French	948
Spanish	468
Travel	3,270
Biography	2,434
History	6,061
Fiction	79,343
Children's books	2,628
Periodicals	2,156

Total.....118,159

Fiction	79,343 vols.	67.1 per cent
Children's books	2,628 vols.	2.2 per cent
Non-Fiction	36,188 vols.	30.7 per cent

RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the Library during the year amounted to \$17,911.35.

In conclusion, I again wish to thank the Board of Trustees for their encouragement and advice and to express my appreciation of the co-operation of the members of the Library staff.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS B. GRAVES,
Librarian.

APPENDIX I.

Gifts have been received from the following:

Ackworth, W. M.	Greenhood, L. H.
Alexander, Magnus W.	Guaranty Trust Company of
American Issue Publishing Co.	New York
American Sugar Refining Co.	Heath, Sarah Ritchie
American Telephone & Tele-	Hendricks, S. E. Co., Inc.
graph Co.	Hodgen, Dr. Joseph D.
Andersen, E. J.	Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
Armstrong Cork & Insulation	Howitt, Rev. H.
Co.	Hyman, Joseph
Army and Navy News	Illinois Commission to P. P. I. E.
Association of Life Insurance	Indiana—State Board of Edu-
Presidents	cation
Baekeland, Dr. L. H.	Ingle, Mrs. George
Baldwin, R. H.	Japan Society, N. Y.
Bandmann, C. J.	Johnson, Miss A. E.
Beanston, Geo.	Kahn, Otto H.
Bethlehem Steel Company	Kohn, Mrs. Geo. A.
Boyle, Thos. F.	Lyon & Healy
Bradbury, A. W.	McCausland, W. K.
California—Insurance Commis-	Massachusetts Institute of
sioner	Technology
California—Legislative Council	Mayer Acoustile Co.
Bureau	Metropolitan Water & Sewer-
California—Secretary of State	age Board
California—State Mineralogist	Meyer, H. G.
California—State Mining Bureau	Meyer, Mrs. Moritz
California Academy of Sciences	Moran, Robert (Rosario, Wash.)
California Development Board	Moody Manual Company
Canada—Department of Mines	Morrow, W. W.
Carnegie Endowment for Inter-	Myers, William S.
national Peace	National Advisory Committee
Colorado—Bureau of Mines	for Aeronautics
Columbia University—Division	National Bank of Commerce
of Intelligence and Publicity	in New York City
Commonwealth Club of Cali-	National Biscuit Co. (N. Y.)
fornia	National Security League, Inc.
Corrugated Bar Co.	National Wholesale Liquor
Crawford, Carroll	Dealers of America
Curtis Publishing Co.	New Jersey—Public Utility
Dennison Manufacturing Co.	Commissioners
Dixon, Prof. W. Macneile	New Jersey—State Library
Doran, George H. Co.	New South Wales—Trade Com-
Dryden, Forrest F.	missioner
du Parc, Comte	New York—State Board of
Dutton, E. P. & Co.	Charities
Eaton, Mrs. P. S.	New York—State Library
Fuller, H. J. (Terre Haute, Ind.)	New York State—Public Serv-
Grand Lodge of Iowa, A. F. &	ice Commission, 1st District
A. M.	

New York State—Public Serv-	Stone, I. F.
ice Commission, 2nd District	Talley, Herbert
New Zealand—Statistician	Taussig, Miss Rose
Ohio—Geological Survey	Technical Society of the Pacific
Pacific Gas & Electric Co.	Coast
Penrose, R. A. F., Jr.	U. S.—Committee on Public In-
Perkins, Thomas A.	formation
Philadelphia—Bureau of Sur-	U. S.—Department of State
veys	U. S.—Geological Survey
Pope & Talbot	U. S.—Interstate Commerce
Putnam, G. P. Sons	Commission
Rockefeller Foundation	U. S.—Reclamation Service
Root, Robert Cromwell	U. S.—Superintendent of Docu-
Ryan, Daniel L.	ments
San Diego Chamber of Com-	University of California
merce	Von Geldern, Otto
Serbian Relief Committee	Walker, Mrs. Cyrus
Sheppard, Eli T.	Welcker, Adair
Soule, W. F.	Wisconsin—Railroad Commis-
Springfield (Mass.) Building	sion
Commissioner	Wood, Baldwin
Standard Car Equipment Co.	Wood, J. H.
Stearns, Dr. V. J.	

LIBRARIES SENDING REPORTS OR BULLETINS.

Alameda Free Library	New York Public Library
Berkeley Public Library	New York State Library
Brooklyn Public Library	Newark Free Public Library
Buffalo Public Library	Northwestern University Li-
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh	brary
Chicago Public Library	Omaha Public Library
Cincinnati Public Library	Pasadena Public Library
Cleveland Public Library	Paterson Free Public Library
Elizabeth Free Public Library	Peabody Institute
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Philadelphia City Institute
Free Library of Philadelphia	Pratt Institute Free Library
General Society of Mechanics	Providence Athenaeum Library
and Tradesmen	Providence Public Library
Harvard University Library	Riverside Public Library
Haverhill Public Library	Rosenberg Library
John Crerar Library	San Francisco Public Library
Johns Hopkins University Li-	St. Louis Public Library
brary	Savannah Public Library
Kansas City Public Library	Seattle Public Library
Leland Stanford Junior Univer-	Springfield City Library Associa-
sity Library	tion
Library Company of Philadel-	Stockton Public Library
phia	Toronto Public Library
Los Angeles Public Library	University of California Library
Mercantile Library of New	
York	

APPENDIX II.

Year Ending March 1st	Membership	Subscribing	Life and Honorary	Volumes in Library	Circulation
1918	3725	3135	590	70055	118159
1917	3742	3144	598	65875	132721
1916	3599	2982	617	63672	127866
1915	3488	2862	626	56740	131687
1914	3341	2709	632	50776	125650
1913	3498	2855	643	44527	118998
1912	3304	2660	644	39266	110194
1911	3036	2385	651	35392	88753
1910	2362	1717	645	32186	71741
1909	2680	2034	646	28324	83042
1908	2763	2120	643	24179	.....
1907	3377	2726	651	17850	.....
April 18, 1906	4150	.....	...	.....	.....

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS.

President's Address and Annual Report. 1st to 62nd, 1856-1917.
1856-1906 Out of Print.

Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order. Editions of 1857, 1870,
1875, 1876, 1880, 1883, 1885, 1886, 1889, 1891, 1895, 1899, 1908.
Out of print.

Mechanics' Institute Industrial Exhibition. Reports of 1st to 32nd,
1857-1899. Out of print.

Speeches made at the Reception tendered by the Mechanics' In-
stitute to William W. Webb, April 19, 1871. Out of print.

Report of Guido Kustel, appointed by the Mechanics' Institute as
Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition of 1873. Out of print.

Proceedings of the Reception tendered to the workmen of the
Union Iron Works by the Mechanics' Institute, December 22,
1893. Out of print.

Catalogue of the Mechanics' Institute Library, 1867. Out of print.

Bulletin v. 1-6 (March, 1897-July, 1902). Out of print.

List of books on petroleum, 1901. (Special series, No. 1.)
Out of print.

Literature available in the library on petroleum, with some refer-
ences on asphaltum, May, 1903. (Technical reference list,
No. 1.) Out of print.

Literature available in the library on forestry, lumbering, timber
and trees. June, 1903. (Technical reference list, No. 2.)
Out of print.

List of books on architecture. August, 1913.

List of books on building and building materials. December, 1913.

List of books added during 1914.

List of books added during 1915.

List of books on electrical engineering. June, 1916.

List of books on petroleum. January, 1917.

List of books added during 1916.

List of books on aeronautics and military and naval engineering.
January, 1918.

